## II. Amendments to the Specification:

In response to the Office Action of November 14, 2006, please replace the paragraph of the specification beginning at page 1, line 5 with the following amended paragraph:

-- This application is a continuation of United States Application No. 09/658,017, filed September 12, 2000, <u>now abandoned</u>, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 09/532,599, filed March 22, 2000, <u>now abandoned</u>, to which the instant application claims priority. --

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Please replace the Abstract beginning at page 30, line 5 and ending at line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

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-- In one example embodiment of the present invention, a vessel having an open end and a closed end is provided. The vessel further comprises a filtering means. The filtering means is disposed generally toward the closed end of the vessel. Subsequently the closed end of the tube or vessel can be pierced so that the liquid and waste products can be removed from the vessel through the pierced aperture. In another example embodiment, a method for processing at least one substance in a vessel capable of retaining at least one substance is provided. The method comprises introducing the at least one substance into the vessel. The method further comprises processing the at least one substance. The method further comprises creating an aperture in the vessel; and removing at least one substance through the aperture. --